

REMARKS

Specification

A replacement abstract is filed herewith.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 112 and 101

These rejections are moot in view of the clarifying amendments.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 102

The specification teaches that welding a polymer component to a surface of a plastic under the action of laser light during inscription or marking means that "Compared with the prior art, the laser energy in the present invention is not used for sublimation of the colorants or melting of glass pigments, but instead for welding of the polymer component in the inscription medium to the plastic surface. Colour-fast marking and inscription is achieved by homogeneously warming a polymer-containing inscription medium and at the same time avoiding local thermal overheating."

Koops achieves marking by sublimation of colorants or melting of glass pigments, which is not within the scope of the present claims. Contrary to the allegations, nowhere does this reference teach or suggest the welding of a polymer component to a plastic surface.

Additionally, it is important to note that the plastics which are made of polymers have nothing to do with the polymer component, e.g., polymer particles, in the inscription medium. The polymer component, as recited in the claims, is welded to the surface of the plastic.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

Various dependent claims are rejected in view of Koops in view of further references. None of the additional references cures the deficiencies of the primary reference. As such, for at least the reason discussed above, none of these rejected dependent claims are obvious either.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

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